

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 7 are amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative at the personal interview conducted on February 4, 2004. The substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks, which constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-6 and 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,774,105 to Yamamoto et al. (hereinafter "Yamamoto"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As agreed to during the personal interview, Applicant respectfully submits that Yamamoto does not disclose, teach or suggest "a connector for delivering electric power and for sending information ... wherein the plural display devices are detachably attached to the connector," as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claim 6. Support for the claim amendments can be found, for example, on page 8 of the specification.

Yamamoto teaches a ferroelectric display device, which can continue to display information after a power failure or turning off of the power. (See column 1, lines 20-23). The ferroelectric display devices are not detachably attached to a connector delivering electric power and for sending information in Yamamoto.

The Office Action rejects claims 5 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Yamamoto. However, the Office Action cites no passages in Yamamoto which allegedly disclose the features recited in claims 5 and 12 of exchanging information by a wireless system.

The Office Action rejects claims 2 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Yamamoto in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,445,385 to Shin et al. (hereinafter "Shin"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the personal interview, Shin teaches a display unit which is detachable from the information source (see Fig. 2 of Shin). The information source communicates with the display unit using optical signals. However, the display units in Shin require electric power, and therefore are not detachably attached to a connector delivering electric power and for sending information.

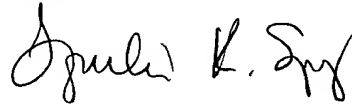
Therefore, as agreed to during the personal interview, neither Yamamoto nor Shin teaches or suggests plural display devices detachably attached to a connector delivering electric power and sending information, and claims 1 and 6 are patentable over the cited references.

Claims 2-5 and 13-14 depend from claim 1, and claims 7-12 depend from claim 6. Therefore, claims 2-5 and 7-14 are patentable for the reasons set forth above, as well as for the additional features they recite. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1, 3-6 and 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and claims 2 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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